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COUNTRY Syria

SUBJECT Plans of the Syrian Communist

Party

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December 1948

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

The Communist Party in Syria temperarily abandoned all plans for the 25X1X6

large-scale demonstrations that they had planned for December 1948. The rioting and demonstrations by the students and the Popular Party at the beginning of the month had taken the Communists by surprise, and they were quite unprepared to take full advantage of the situation. The main goal of the Communist Party now is to capitalize on the proposed amalgamation of the labor syndicates, discussions concerning which were scheduled for the end of December, according to informant. If they succeed to any extent in controlling the syndicates, the Communists will plan over-all strikes, in an effort to upset the present government.

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The Communist Party in Damascus has been sending communications to Soviet Hinister Solod | Comment.

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, requesting much greater support during the present period than it has received in the past. The Communists feel that the present situation is promising enough to justify much greater financial and other support than they have been receiving, informant stated.

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